

3 October 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Resume of OCB Luncheon Meeting, 3 October 1957

PRESENT: Mr. Cutler, Mr. Dearborn, Mr. Dulles, Dr. FitzGerald,  
Mr. Gray, Mr. Herter, Mr. Larson, Mr. Scribner,  
Mr. Sprague, Mr. Stassen, Mr. Staats

1. Meeting of the International Red Cross at New Delhi

Mr. Herter announced that the State Department has decided to send an official voting delegation to the convention of the International Red Cross, which will be held at New Delhi in November. Ambassador Bunker has been queried as to whether he believes that he can serve as a member without prejudicing his official position in India. The Department believes that on balance his participation would be desirable.

There was general discussion of the possibilities of preparing propaganda designed to anticipate attempts by the Chinese Communists to use their representation at the convention as a sounding board for anti-Western propaganda. One of the possible sources from which to draw material for countering propaganda was considered to be William L. White's book on atrocities committed by the Chinese in Korea, "The Captives of Korea."

It was pointed out that one of the principal objections to the US' sending an official delegation was the possibility that participation in the same meeting by US and Chinese Communist delegations could be represented as a step toward de facto recognition of the CHICOM regime.

A draft resolution, to be prepared as a substitute for an anti-nuclear testing resolution which the International Red Cross Panel (an unofficial Swiss organization) plans to table, has been agreed upon. General Gruenther, as head of the American Red Cross, will sponsor the resolution, rather than having it proposed by an American official.

2. Report on National Security Council Meeting of 2 October

Mr. Cutler reported on developments at the NSC meeting of 2 October. He particularly mentioned the compromise agreement which had been reached on the draft of the Formosa paper. The State-JCS position, which was opposed by the Bureau of the Budget, was approved, but with the proviso that the amounts of money authorized would be kept to the minimum necessary to achieve objectives of our Formosa policy.

Mr. Cutler also reported that the language proposed by the Secretary of State concerning the Chinese offshore islands was accepted, but that a qualifying footnote incorporating a statement by the President was appended.

3. LIFE Article on Personnel Overseas

It was reported that LIFE magazine is planning to publish an article just before Christmas dealing with official American personnel stationed overseas. Although there is no firm indication at this time that LIFE intends to give a derogatory tone to the article, it is recognized that this is a most delicate subject to treat without having a disparaging effect on American efforts abroad. It was pointed out that, particularly in the case of lower level writers and editors, there might be a natural tendency to play up such unfortunate points as the disparity between the standard of living of Americans abroad and that of the inhabitants of the host countries. The group discussed various ways of influencing LIFE to slant the article in a manner that would be least injurious to the American interest.

4. Article in Readers Digest

Dr. FitzGerald stated that he had discovered indirectly that an individual well known in Washington is planning an article for the Readers Digest, scheduled for the January or February issues, on the US foreign economic aid program. It is believed that the article will deal with North Africa, and probably specifically Libya. It is expected that the tone will be derogatory, and Dr. FitzGerald was most concerned at the possible effects of its publication, particularly at a time just before Congress will be considering next year's ICA budget.

It was suggested that Mr. Herter might look into ways of stopping or amending the proposed article. One of the channels suggested was through Stanley High.

5. Korean Shooting Incident

There was general discussion of the unfortunate propaganda effect of today's shooting incident, in which an American soldier killed a Korean youth.

6. Financial Problems of India

Mr. Staats referred to the recent paper prepared for the Board in anticipation of the visit to this country of the Indian Finance Minister. He inquired whether it was the feeling of the Board that a working group should undertake to study the entire problem of India's financial situation. Mr. Cutler pointed out that he had suggested at the 18 September meeting of the Board that a fact finding commission might be dispatched to India to get further details as to the precise position of the Indian government and their plans for remedial action. He recalled that he had suggested that such a commission might be headed by Clarence Randall, or someone of similar stature. It was noted that this proposal would not be implemented at this time.

It was, however, the consensus of the group that the Indians should be pinned down to precise terms as to what they desire from us. It was also noted that there appears to be an effort on the part of the Indian government to make the prospect of a loan more palatable to the US by appearing to be devoting more emphasis to private areas rather than to government-sponsored projects.

7. Press Release on Nuclear Tests

A draft of a proposed press release, to be issued by the manager of the Nevada Test Organization of the AEC, covering the conclusion of the current nuclear test series, was circulated. Mr. Stassen felt that it would be harmful to the security objectives of the US to issue a statement as detailed as this one at this time. He suggested that it be cut to a minimum and that it state concisely that the weapons tested were of a small defensive type; he thought that the release

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should go on to say that further details might be forthcoming after technical appraisal of the tests results.

This position was agreed to as a basis for advice to the AEC, with the idea that if further amplification is desirable in the future, this can be accomplished a few months from now, by which time the current session of the General Assembly will have been completed. (As of 4 October, General Starbird, of the AEC, had agreed to accept the cut-down statement. He felt that the AEC would like at least to mention the number of shots--24--which had been made, but would not insist on this.)



ALLEN W. DULLES  
Director

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